THE EUROPEAN HARVEST FIELD

Letters from Europe's Missionaries

BLESSED ARE YE THAT SOW BESIDE ALL WATERS

Isaiah 32:20.

Published Bi-monthly by the

AMERICAN-EUROPEAN FELLOWSHIP

156 Fifth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

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THOSE BLESSED TROUBLES

"Let not your heart be troubled; neither let it be afraid."—John 14:27.

"I love my child, I note his slightest need;
I long to prosper him in all his ways,
To give him quiet nights and peaceful days.
But if I do, he'll lose himself from Me—
My out-stretched hand he will not wait to see.
I'll place a hindering wall before his feet;
There he will wait, and there we two will meet.
I do it not with wrath for broken laws
Or wilful disobedience, but because
I want him nearer, and I cannot wait
For him to come, for he might wander late.

My child will wonder, will not understand,
Still half in doubt he'll clasp my hand;
But when at last upon my heart he leans
He will have ceased to wonder what it means.
—*Howard W. Pope*

Some one's offering has made free the tracts from which this poem was taken; your offering will make them free to others.

The Salvation Tract Society
Crafton Station, Pittsburgh, Pa.

The
EUROPEAN HARVEST FIELD
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VOL. XXV
No. 2
NORMAN J. SMITH, Managing Editor
MARCH
1944

GRAPE FRUIT TEN CENTS A DOZEN!

Tel Aviv, Palestine, Jan. 15.
(Received April 18)

Dear Mr. Smith:

With this little card (the editor's New Year remembrance) comes good New Year wishes from the Land of Israel. The picture is of the "Wailing Wall" in Jerusalem. The first of December reminded me of the faithfulness of those Christians who are working with me,—co-workers.—when my allowance came by cable.

I moved into one of those little houses in Jaffa, such as we used to model from paper at the Moody Bible Institute. One sees a white-capped sea from the roof today and also many more little homes of this same pattern,—pink ones, yellow ones, red and other hues. The sun shines, but a cold wind is blowing such as you in New York would say "feels like snow in the air."

On Christmaas day there was a wedding in the church in the morning, and then I had dinner with a Jewish friend in Tel Aviv. On New Year's day we were in an Arab home in Jaffa, with an Arab-style dinner. I wonder how many of you there in America know how to make Arab coffee? I'm sure you would all enjoy a Christmas and New Year's day in this very old city and the very new one.

I enjoyed those good letters in the "European Harvest Field" for September-October, which came this week. One morning in Tel Aviv I met an American soldier who went to Rev. A. F. Scorza's Church in Chicago.

A package containing the Epistle to the Romans and two lovely Bibles came from the Moody Bible Institute Colportage this week. The young people are grateful for Romans, for it explains the way of salvation so very clearly. Several Jewish girls have told me of their belief in Jesus as their own Saviour. One girl assured me yesterday that this belief was in her heart, where at first it was only in her head!

An American farmer writes of apples spoiling on the ground, while we are paying eighty cents a pound for them here. On the other hand, our citrus fruits are spoiling here. Grape fruit was selling for ten cents a dozen at the door this morning. The grape fruit, tangerines and oranges are full of sweet juice at this season.

We are continuing our search for a room in Tel Aviv where we can meet together for prayer and Bible study. Many homes are open these days. Trusting for many born-again ones in Palestine in the year 1944.

Sincerely yours,

JANE T. HALEY.

A MISSIONARY'S CONTINUED OPPORTUNITY

Driven Out of Czechoslovakia He Finds Many Czechs in Northern Minnesota

Willow River, Minn., Jan. 29.

Dear Prayer Helpers:

We praise the Lord for enabling us to enlarge our work by the use of a duplicator. We have felt keenly our inability to reach the seven country communities which we have been contacting thus far, — scattered over 150 miles. And there are still other settlements of the Czech (Bohemian) people, in this northern part of Minnesota, which we have not touched at all. However, by this means, we may possibly reach some of them. We will also be able to reach oftener many of our nationality whom we have contacted during our travels all over the United States. If you can send us the addresses of others who can read our language, we can now include them within the circle of the Gospel influence.

Incidentally, it will also enable us to communicate oftener with you, who stand with us in prayer and the fellowship of His suffering. We appreciate the kind work of the prayer circles; yet we would gladly send our information and Missionary news to all individually who will signify their desire by sending in their addresses.

Considering the situation as it appears to us, this Word came to my mind: " — persons who cannot discern between their right hand and their left hand."— Jonah 4:11. That was the Lord's own comment on the prophet's complaint. Truly, the people of Nineveh turned at the proclamation of God's judgment, and it is so easy to break the staff over those who harden themselves to the Gospel proclamation. But are we to judge? Recently I filled in a space with this line:

"Can I measure patience divine by the lack of mine?"

One of the causes of the hardening of hearts is the activity of the enemy, more zealous to propagate false teaching than the Gospel believers are to spread the message of salvation. Truly the love of many has waxed cold, and I fear that some never knew the love that constraineth to follow Christ!

At the Christmas season we sent out a short message on a card, not expecting any reply. Yet one party has written three times already; who? A man of seventy-six years, who claims to have "labored already in Spiritualism," and wants me to visit him, "*so he can instruct me in the truth!*" He claims to have seen or heard the devil a thousand times, and he filled his body with electricity so that he almost died; yet he remained victorious. Yes, the Evil One is busy; — also through Jehovah's Witnesses, Seventh Day-ists, etc. Even Psychiana is attacking people ignorant of the true Gospel. For those people who do not understand the English language, the devil comes to them in their own!

Of course, there is also the influence of the Church of Rome. Though some have ceased to attend church in the last fifty years, they have turned into outright infidelity for lack of better instruction. How fanatic this group can be, I saw recently again. Calling at a home, the woman, otherwise too ill to be about, jumped to the door on hearing that I was there, threatening to "smash my face" if I did not go away at once. Only her husband's effort to push her back saved me from actual violence. Of course, I did not escape abuse, with bad names and insinuations.

Also I had the privilege of using our car as a preaching place, calling on a man who had previously no time to ask us into his house. Now he did not dare to do so. Some time ago, while seemingly on his death bed, he signed his farm over to his son, with the result that now he cannot die soon enough to suit the young couple. They are "faithfully" going to the church, but that does not pre-

vent them from mistreating the old father. He prefers to spend his time outside, rather than be within. . . . The old man was glad to warm himself at our car heater, while we had the first opportunity to present the Gospel invitation to him.

Visitation of the sick is one of the Christian privileges, yet sometimes we face unexpected situations. In a place where we had a measure of welcome, we found the 82-year-old man doubly sick. The first ailment, plus perhaps the doctor's ointments, made sleeping difficult. Just that afternoon he succeeded in getting an hour's nap, but on arising, he slipped and fell, causing an ugly gash on his forehead, and probably a split bone in one arm. Four miles from the village, they were glad for the first-aid kit we carry along. Thus with a little help and practical advice we relieved the unfortunate one so he could sleep that night.

Though that help was appreciated, he showed more than usual resistance to the presenting of the Word. Evidently some one had called since our previous visit and had fortified them with the usual excuse: "We have our religion, and any religion is good, if well kept." A letter received later on said that the patient is doing well under the new treatment. Pray that this incident may make them more willing to accept the spiritual advice also.

In one place we came just after two old people had passed away; — two souls gone to eternity without having had a chance to hear the Gospel invitation in their own tongue. The lack of gas for the car is one of the great hindrances in our great parish.

Praise the Lord that our light shines even in places we cannot reach. We have a report that our booklet, "Greasy," has carried the message to men in the "death cell," and from India we have a request for permission to translate the story into the vernacular, so it may be a blessing to the people of that country also. If you have not read it yet, do so. As one said, he could not have spent 20c for a better purpose than to get "Greasy" for self-edification and for inspiration to others.

Regret that the publishing of "The Conversion of the Aged Jew" is delayed for a few more weeks. Had the promise of it right after Christmas, but the printer is again short of help. We expect a great blessing from that publication also. Order your copy early; 35c or three copies for a dollar. Please pray for this work, and for yours in Christ. Mr. and Mrs. CHARLES LUKESH.

Still With the Czechs

Here are two Missionaries who certainly have been faithful to their trusts. We see them under the palm trees of Southern California, but there was a reason for leaving this lovely climate for the snow and ice far-below zero temperatures of northern Minnesota. It may be that the Lord permitted them to be driven out of their Mission center in Czechoslovakia that they might preach the Gospel to the Czechs (Bohemians) scattered along the 150-mile territory of Canada's border. Brother and Sister Charles Lukesh have already planted the Gospel seed in seven of the border communities. Please join in prayer for them and their work.

WATCHMAN, WHAT OF THE NIGHT?

Sixteen Thousand Patients in the Jaffa Clinic Last Year!

Jaffa—Tel Aviv, Palestine,
February 23, 1944.

Dear Friends:

I used to write my reports during the Christmas holidays, but this year I did not do so because of my sick right hand. About two and a half months ago I fell and broke one of the small bones of the wrist, and the surgeon, —a friend of mine, — put on my hand a plaster of gypsum for two months. It was somewhat hard for me to write, and this was the cause of my silence. Now the plaster is off and I am going to write a report; not a long one, however.

There is so little time for reports. When the day is over I have very few minutes for writing. If it were possible, I would rather send you a film of the work than a letter, for how can I describe in writing all the details (most interesting) of the clinical life in particular and the labor in the Lord's vineyard here in general? Every day brings us plenty of interesting events, with tiredness at the end of the day, but mixed with great and deep joy. I don't know if anything else in the world can give such a satisfaction as labor for the Lord!

During the past year (1943) the Clinic accepted 16,822 patients; — mind you, not sixteen hundred, but sixteen thousand and eight hundred! Is this not: "Cast the net on the right side of the ship and ye shall find"? (John 21:6.) And is the Clinic not the net, the net of the Gospel which He ordered cast into the sea of souls? These many thousands received Gospels, tracts and leaflets, and heard the Word preached or in conversation as they received treatment and love through His grace. Is this not wonderful? Really! "Amen: Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be unto our God forever and ever!"

What a joy, unspeakable joy, lies in casting the "net" at Christ's order, and to feel His watchful eye while pulling the "net" out of the "sea." "Master, at Thy word we will let down the net" in the coming year as we did in the past one.

From the beginning of November until the 16th of December, Professor Martsinkovski and his wife, who came from Haifa to Tel-Aviv, helped us greatly in the work here. They held meetings in Tel-Aviv and Jaffa among the Arabs and Jews, and spoke several times to the patients in the Clinic waiting rooms.

It was a strong testimony for the Jews to see a Russian professor from Moscow, who offered for their acceptance the Messiah (Jewish), whom he, — not a Jew, — accepted many years ago in far-off Russia as his own Saviour and Lord, Jesus Christ. And what was more remarkable, Prof. Martsinkovski preached to the Jews in Hebrew.

There are many Jews here who read the Gospel. Many are coming to the Hall Peniell asking for the New Testament. So, in spite of the common and dark opposition against Christ, there are also signs of the nearing morning.

"Watchman, what of the night? Watchman, what of the night? The watchman said, The morning cometh, and also the night: If ye will inquire, inquire ye: return, come." (Isaiah 21:11-12) It is evident that the day is approaching when Israel will return and come. Let us pray and work for this glorious day.

Yours in Him,

J. JUK.

BAPTISMAL SERVICE IN ARGENTINA

Missionary Reports from Buenos Aires and Other Colonies of South American Russians

Republica Argentina, S. A.

Dear Friends:

Your Christmas letter with best wishes and enclosed check received. Please accept our most hearty thanks and wishes to you all in the office and to all our friends. May the Lord bless all of us and use us more for His own glory during this new year, in spite of all those troubles and trials. Together with Moses, the man of God, we wish to say: "Dear Lord. Teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom." (Psalm 90:12.) We do not know what this year may bring to us; the Lord alone knows everything. So let us be watchful and ready for anything.

We thank God for all the blessings of the past year and every opportunity we had to testify of Him and His so great love and salvation that He manifested in His Son and our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Together with the Psalmist David, we wish to express our hearty thanks: "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy Name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits. (Ps. 103:1-2.) May the Lord bless all that was sown in our weakness during the last year, and bring forth according to His power and grace. and may He fill up all our short-comings and failures.

During the last few weeks we have been very busy holding a series of special services in different places within reach of our center in Buenos Aires. The attendance was fine and the Lord blessed us richly. We also held the fine Union Services in Buenos Aires which are usually repeated every three months. One of the city pastors was invited to deliver the main address of this series, — an edifying message to our members and all the visitors. His subject was: "The Dead and Alive Members of the Church and How to Know Them." It was a fine and instructing message to Christians.

Our Young People's Society had a special program, the "Feast of Spiritual Singing." Beside our own people, some guests from the Buenos Aires Baptist Theological Seminary shared a portion in this fine program. Professor W. Cooper delivered a touching address, and then sang a duet with his wife. Selected songs and the music for the orchestra were done splendidly in Russian, Ukranian and Spanish. The attendance was good.

We usually make special announcements in the Russian and Ukranian newspapers about such services, and sometimes, beside this, we print programs on separate sheets, with a picture of our Church Choir or orchestra, announcing the date and telling what the program will be, with a kind invitation to attend. These are distributed widely among the Slavonic people. The Christmas programs for children and grown-ups and the Christmas services were held in different places in our center, and the Lord blessed us everywhere.

We also had recently a baptismal service in Buenos Aires, which was especially blessed by the Lord. It always gives us a special opportunity to testify to our Slavonic people by spoken testimony, the act of baptism, — which means death to sin and resurrection to a new life in Christ, and then ending with the Lord's Supper as we usually do after baptism.

Since this special baptism service was also widely announced, our large hall was filled with people. Seven souls who gave themselves to Christ, accepting Him as their personal Saviour and Lord, were baptized, — two young girls, three fine lads and two older men, some of them Russian, some Ukranian and one Slovak.

Now I would like to have you pay special attention to Mr. G. Onischuk, a big, tall, stout Russian, about fifty years old. He came to Argentina a long time ago, when he was a young man, about twenty. He was single and a real "tramper," — for some time wandering from place to place in the different Republics of South America. Then he married a Russian girl in Uruguay. Soon after that they came to live in Berissa, Argentina, where they have been until now. But their lives were very miserable and unhappy.

Even their several beautiful children had no effect on Mr. Onischuk; he seems to have remained a bad man and a drunkard, and often even gave beatings to his wife. Mrs. Onischuk heard the Gospel news and gave herself to Christ, but after this her husband became ever more cruel to her. At last, he left her and the children and went away to a far-off province.

Mrs. Onischuk had a hard time with her small children, but she had faith in God and prayed for her husband. Then her older daughter was killed by a railroad train. After a long five years of suffering, she received a letter from her husband, asking her to help him to get back to them. When he returned, he continued to turn against his wife and her God.

When we came here from Europe, we visited them from time to time, praying together and testifying. But Mr. Onischuk laughed at us and continued drinking his wine. Trusting in the promises of God, "Believe on the promises of God, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved, *and thy house*," we continued to pray for this man. The Lord wonderfully, by His divine providences and through the work of His Holy Spirit, prepared this man's stony heart. Some time ago, at our services at Berisso, I made an invitation for acceptance of Christ as personal Saviour, and Mr. Onischuk was the first one to respond.

With tears in his eyes, he stood up and clearly announced that he accepted Christ as his Saviour and Lord and wished to be faithful to Him to death, and wanted to make a covenant with Him in baptism. His little son, Edward, about ten years old, who was sitting beside him, stood up also, holding his papa by the hand, and said: "I also wish to accept Christ as my Saviour together with my papa."

You can imagine how glad and happy Mrs. Onischuk was, and we all with her! Now, Mr. Onischuk was one of those baptised recently in Buenos Aires. Both Mr. and Mrs. Onischuk are so happy now, and they earnestly pray for all their children, that they may be saved.

My dear friends, if only one dear soul is brought to Christ, it pays to toil hard, because the human soul is precious in His sight. Please continue praying for us and our work here in South America.

(Rev.) JOHN KOVALCHUK.

"The Love of Christ Constraineth Us"

So often our "successful missionary workers" ask for our prayers in their letters that we are glad to join the Great Commission Prayer League in its Annual Day of Prayer for Ministers and Missionaries, on Sunday, May 28, 1944. As their splendid circular pictures this appeal, it is as usual, "*Around the World*" and "*Around the Clock.*" We urge our readers to send to League headquarters, 808 N. La Salle St., Chicago, Ill., for posters and material. (Enclose postage!)

THE KONRADS REACH GUATEMALA

Guatemala City, Guatemala.

Dear Friends:

We have arrived! The Lord was gracious to us through our constant changes in climate as we changed altitudes, — one day to Monterey, the next to Tamazunchale, then to Mexico City, — part of the way through clouds. At Cordoba we shipped our car. It was in a freight train that was wrecked the next day, but escaped injury. We went to Tapachula by train (What a train!), and staid there to await our car. I want to say that when we crossed over into Guatemala we never saw such roads! They were all dirt, of course, but more mountainous than any we had ever seen (and we have lived among mountains before!); there were many narrow defiles, sharp turns, with nothing but sharp inclines to face us. Once or twice we had trouble getting on, even in low gear, since our car was heavily loaded. Once we had to back up on a curve, and in doing so we slipped off the main track just enough to leave ourselves wedged between some guard posts, with one wheel off the ground and a few thousand feet of space just beyond and below us. But the Lord heard, and several men came along. With a long pole, we lifted the car clear, rebuilt a bit of the rock road and got going again.

From Albania to Central America

This smiling Missionary family served the Lord in Albania (across the Adriatic Sea from the heel of the Italian boot) until World War No. 2 began. Now they are in Guatemala, Central America, nearer their praying friends in America.

We had pictured ourselves spending the night out there on the edge of that precipice, and it was very cold there, too. But that night we staid with Missionaries we had met at Lancaster; and in the morning came on to Guatemala City. Just at dusk, after we had tire trouble and stopped at one of the Mission stations along the way, we had car trouble. We went on finally, only to be permanently stalled right on top of a mountain, miles from nowhere. We did all we knew, and then prepared to stay over night in the car, — without supper. We had been praying, and the Lord heard again. He led us to make another check, and this time we found the trouble, — a loose connection on the coil. We were dirty and very tired by that time, but how thankful!

You may remember our saying that it was almost always spring here, but that we did not know whether it was Maine or Texas spring. Well, it's Maine! And there are no means of heating the houses. My hands are so stiff right now that I can scarcely type. My first engagement here is to speak to the American boys at the air field. Then will come language study, and we're preparing for it.

ARTHUR and JEAN KONRAD.

HOW MUCH DO YOU OWE THE HEBREWS?

Part of B. A. M. Schapiro's Effort to Collect a Long-Standing Debt

Think you that Gentile Christians realize the enormous religious debt they owe to the Jews? They are indebted to them for the Bible. The holy men of old who spoke as they were moved by the Holy Ghost were Jews. That book which is your light in darkness, your comfort in sorrow, your armor in battle, your inspiration in life, and your solace in death; that book which as the very sun in the firmament, is giving light to all the world, and compared with which all other books are but as the glimmer of the twinkling stars, — that book you owe to them.

It was through the seed of Abraham that Christ came into union with our common fallen nature, "of whom as concerning the flesh Christ came." In that flesh He became obedient to the Law for you, you who knew no law, and "who were without mercy." (Rom. 11:30, 31.) And He went to death for us all. In the flesh He poured out His life-blood, that He might purge away the sins of the world, and risen and glorified, He ever liveth to make intercession for you and us.

The first Christian Church was composed of Israelites, who obeyed Christ's command, "Go ye and disciple all nations." They planted the precious Gospel seed among the Gentiles. They had no race prejudice. They were willing to be crucified with their heads downward for your pagan ancestry, and now you reap the benefit. Yet you neglect to share it with the Jews within your reach. Is this your gratitude?

Without the Jews you might still be pagans, but through Moses, the Lawgiver, you have received the Ten Commandments, the foundation of all law, moral and civil. You chant Jewish Psalms, you quote the Proverbs of Solomon, you learn patience and submission to God's will from the Patriarchs, you grasp faith's deepest meaning from Abraham, the father of our people. Your souls are borne heavenward by the writings of the sublime Jewish prophets.

(Taken from "The Christian Church and Her Jewish Neighbors," by B. A. M. Schapiro, "whose dominant purpose for more than half a century has been to win the Jew to the Christian faith by an appeal to both Jew and Christian." Like most of his tracts, booklets and periodicals, this new work is for free distribution. Request your copy of this 32-page pamphlet from the author at 676 Bible House, 45 Astor Place, New York 3, N. Y.)

AMERICAN-EUROPEAN FELLOWSHIP MISSIONIARIES

Missionaries serving the Lord under the
American-European Fellowship
156 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

Africa—Rev. Frank A. McGaw.

Albania—Rev. and Mrs. Phineas B. Kennedy (New York), Rev. and Mrs. Edwin Jacques (Massachusetts).

Austria—Miss Emmy Steyrer.

Bulgaria—Mrs. Pawlina Nikoff, Mr. Vasil Angeloff.

France—Miss Tordis Christoffersen.

Hungary—Mr. and Mrs. John Mochar, Mr. John Gonak, Mr. Eugene Nagy.

Palestine—Dr. James Juk, Miss Jane T. Haley.

Russia—George Nazaruk, Konstanty Jarosuk, John Gordiuk.

Roumania—Lucas Badziak, Joan Costi, Ille Hemiluc.

South America—(Uruguay, Paraguay and Argentina)—Rev. and Mrs. John Kovalchuk.

Switzerland—Rev. and Mrs. Fred Stetler. (Relocated because of the war).

Rev Karl Faulkner (Hungary), in Oregon.

Rev. Philip Manetz (Hungary), in New York.*

Miss Jean Rhode (Poland), in Florida.

Rev. and Mrs. Charles Lukesh (Czechoslovakia), in Minnesota.

Mrs. Louise V. Hill (Roumania), in Michigan.

Please remember these friends in your prayers

*** (Philip Manetz is ill; his family is still in Europe.)**

THE POTENCY OF PRAYER

By Rev. W. S. Hottel, D.D., President of the Denver Bible Institute

"Call unto Me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not" (Jer. 33:3).

The spiritual problems which need to be solved and the difficulties which need to be surmounted and overcome by God's faithful people to-day are numerous and great. The hardness of heart prevailing among the masses is appalling. The indifference and carelessness among many of God's own dear children is so desperate that it is heart-breaking. The majority of professed Christians are fast asleep and are living a life of ease and selfish pleasure. Many of the Lord's own are under the spell and in the grip of absorbing worldliness, so that the things of spiritual import are almost entirely crowded out of their lives. Prayer is forgotten, the Bible neglected and the assembling with God's people forsaken. They have no time for God and spiritual interests, because they are utterly taken up and occupied with the things of the world. And then, too, there is an appalling spiritual barrenness, shameful defeat and crippling weakness. The spiritual condition existing among God's people to-day, generally speaking, is dreadfully sad for its spectacle of spiritual indifference, worldliness, compromise, defeat and barrenness. And the worst of it all is, that it is so little known and realized.

Why Fruitless Effort?

In spite of this sad condition of things, it is to be admitted, however, that there is in many places a great deal of religious activity and effort. Great numbers of professed Christians are busy and active in professed service for God, and zealously prosecuting the work of God. But how much is really accomplished for God in all this activity and effort? Of course no service rendered for God, in the Name of Christ, and according to His plan and for His glory, is ever lost or entirely fruitless. Be it far from us to ever even infer such a thought, and much less to declare such a thing. But there may be a great amount of activity and effort in service for God, with very little real fruit, even where such service is rendered in the Name of Christ, and according to the plan of God. If such service is performed in a prayerless manner and apart from utter dependence upon the Lord, it will fail of its greatest possible fruitfulness. It must be so, for only the Spirit of God can really bring things to pass for the Lord.

A Lesson from Rubinstein

The need and call of the hour is for more prayer, as well as for more earnest and persistent prayer. The lack of prayer is readily noticeable. Great pianists, it is said, carry the dumb piano with them, which is simply a mechanical keyboard for the exercising of the fingers. Rubinstein used it, and on one occasion he said, "If I neglect to practice a single day, I notice it; and if for two days, my friends notice it; and if for three days, the people notice it." The same is true in the life of a Christian in reference to prayer. A true Christian will himself first notice the neglect of prayer; then next his Christian friends will notice it; and lastly the world will notice it.

Boundless Power of the Holy Spirit

If we would take things to God in prayer, plead with Him concerning them with holy persistence and with believing prayer, a good many things would give way, against which we have been beating and battling in vain with our own puny human wisdom and power. The Holy Spirit can break down prejudice, remove indifference, melt away willfulness, dissolve doubts and unbelief and move the hearts and wills of mortals toward the Lord and spiritual verities. There is no impossible case with Him. And believing prayer enables Him to work. We unhesitatingly affirm that the prayer-power has never yet been tried to its full capacity by anyone.

Call on God in These Crisis Days

If we would see mighty wonders of Divine grace and power wrought in human lives, if we would realize strength in place of weakness, fruitfulness in place of barrenness and victory in place of shameful defeat, let us pray more earnestly and more believingly. God's standing challenge to His people rings out in the words of the Prophet of old, "Call unto Me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things which thou knowest not". Let us answer this Divine challenge. Let us call upon God in earnest and believing prayer, and thus give Him the opportunity to display His glorious power and to manifest His Omnipotent might. Let this be God's message to all God's people, no matter in whatsoever capacity they may be seeking to serve Him. And let us remember that these are crisis days, when we are called upon to engage in an intense conflict with spiritual foes, and that therefore we need to pray more.

A Man Who Had Irresistible Power

The story is told of a man who had been called to the foreign field. He had not been in the habit of preaching, but he knew how to pray; and going one day to a friend, he said, "I don't see how God can use me on the field. I have no special talent." His friend said, "My brother, God wants men on the field who can pray. There are too many

preachers now and too few pray-ers." He went away saying not a further word. In his room in the early dawn a voice was heard weeping and pleading for souls. All through the day, the shut door and the hush that prevailed made you feel like walking softly, for a soul was pleading with God.

Secret of a Useful Life

It is said that to his home hungry souls would flock, drawn by some irresistible power. In the morning hours some would call and say: "I have gone by your home so many times and have longed to come in. Will you tell me how I can be saved?" or from some distant place another would call, saying, "I heard you would tell us here how we might find heart-rest."

This incident furnishes the explanation to the secret of a real useful and fruitful spiritual life. In the secret chamber lost souls were borne before the Lord on the hands of prayer, and pleaded for in earnest prayer, and the Holy Spirit knew where they were and sent them along. It is prayer which brought this saint of God a life of spiritual fruitfulness and great influence over the souls of men. Earnest and persistent prayer was the secret of his spiritual success. And this self-same secret lies at our doors. Shall we pray more? If we do, we shall enjoy more and greater spiritual victories.

At Waterloo, the English troops, obeying orders, fell on their faces for a time, and let the hot fire of the French artillery pass over them; then they sprang to their feet, and rushed to the thickest of the fight and beat back their foes. The Lord wants His people flat on their faces, before they attempt to meet any great crisis of life, or to undertake any great service for Him. Our task is superhuman and demands superhuman strength, obtainable if we call upon Him and trust Him.

W. S. HOTTEL

MY ARAB FRIENDS IN JAFFA

Tel Aviv, Palestine, March 1st.

Dear Friends:

Thank you for my cabled allowance, which reached me on February 1st. I appreciate the faithfulness of my prayer helpers there in America. A nice gift of Bibles, Scripture portions and tracts also came from the Moody Bible Institute Colportage. The people liked them very much, and two of the Bibles have already found homes in which they are loved and read because they are the Word of God.

A Jewish doctor, who has been reading and studying from one of Mr. Davis' New Testaments for the past year, has professed his love for the man of that Book. The confession was made in a room before a group of religious Jews. It means much for any one in this land to make an open profession in our Saviour.

"Our Hope," (Dr. Gaebelein, editor) came today, and on my way home it was asked for twice. I promised to loan it to the first man after I had finished reading it, but the second one begged hard to keep it for a few days. This happens almost every time the magazine comes. A doctor tells me it is the best magazine he has ever read.

I live in Jaffa, in a little house, such as were common in the time of our Lord. One enters the *roof* through the *house!* The houses around here are many hued, — pink, green, yellow, blue and red! My house is near the sea. The Arabs in the neighborhood are very friendly. I sometimes visit in the homes of my friends in Tel Aviv. The family of the Ben Maeirs (who are graduates of Moody Bible Institute) have been kind to me. They tell me that they feel that I belong to their family and show that home feeling when I go to them. The Ben Maeirs are working in Haifa; their mother and family live in Tel Aviv. When three children and the mother and an uncle were ill, they asked me to take care of them and be their nurse.

It is good to hear from home how the Lord is blessing people in the churches and small communities. One young girl from Michigan writes of her salvation; even in her small letter one can feel her new life and joy in believing.

Sincerely yours,

JANE HALEY.

GOD SAVES AND KEEPS FOREVER

Here I have set forth both God's part and man's part according to the Scripture. And God can influence man to do his part, that His glory shall be accomplished. "Yea, he shall be holden up: for God is able to make him stand."—(Romans 14:4.)

"I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him against that day." For, "The Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve me unto His heavenly kingdom." And, "He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ." Therefore, "We are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them who believe to the saving of the soul." (II Timothy 1:12 and 4:18, Philippians 1:6, Hebrews 10:39.)

What glorious certainty is in these words. the more so because eternal security originated in the heart of God, not in man. Yet God carries it to victory by working through man. But the promise of eternal security bothers some because they limit God, and undervalue the new birth. God saves sinners: "By the washing of regeneration and the renewing of the Holy Ghost." **And says: "If** any man be in Christ, he is a new creature, old things are passed away: behold, all things are become new." And: "Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin." (or practice sin). But: "Are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time." (Titus 3:5, II Corinthians 5:17, 1 John 3:9, I Peter 1:5.)

And because the new birth is a miracle of God, it saves us so completely that we respond, at least partly, to His keeping power without being forced; And, "Are not of them that draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul." And, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (Hebrews 10:39, I John 1:9.)

So eternal security is one of God's sweet blessings, and shows His love to His redeemed children, and should give even the weakest courage. And besides Jesus: "Is able to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him, seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for them." And says: "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee." (Hebrews 7:25 and 13:5.)

It also shows the power of the blood of Christ, who, as the world's substitute, took the world's punishment; and to God paid the world's sins on the cross; and on the cross provided salvation for the world. Therefore, "Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." For, "We have redemption through His blood; even the forgiveness of sins." Because, "He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities." And, "Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree." Then; "By his own blood He entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us" (on the cross). And this redemption is provided for all; but it only profits those who take Jesus as their Saviour. (Romans 10:13, Colossians 1:14, Isaiah 53:5, I Peter 2:24, Hebrews 9:12.)

Eternal security shows, too, that the new birth and adoption into the family of God are eternal blessings. For, "As many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name. Which were born not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God." And, "They shall never perish." For, "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me; and I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand." So without fail, God is preparing His redeemed children for Heaven, and what a comfort. (John 1:12, 13, and 10:27, 28.)

And because of His keeping power and our new nature, no one that is born again ever goes clear away from Jesus. "But he that is begotten of God keepeth himself." And does not: "Draw back unto perdition." So if one entirely forsakes Jesus and dies in his sin, it shows that he never was saved in the first place. For, "They went out from us, but they were not of us." These verses are convincing. (I John 5:18, Hebrews 10:39, I John 2:19.)

And these verses harmonize a lot of Scripture and do away with a lot of confusion about backsliding. For if God can draw a sinner to Jesus and save him, He certainly can influence him to hold out after he is born again, and has promised to do so. But He neither gives us liberty to sin, nor forces us to hold out; we hold out willingly because of our new nature, and His keeping power.

So the Christian's new nature and faith: coupled with God's promise and power: together with Christ's prayers for them: show that His words can and will come true, "And they shall never perish." But will be preserved unto His heavenly kingdom. For Christ "Is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him, seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for them." (John 10:28, II Timothy 4:18, Hebrews 7:25.)

And because it is a sweet blessing of God, and rests upon His promise and power, we must be sure that we are born again; otherwise it is not for us. For many church members are not born again, and, of course, they will be lost, unless they accept Christ before they die. For He said, "No man cometh

unto the Father, but by Me," and, "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." (John 14:6, John 3:3.)

But even a Christian can backslide. and if we do, God will chasten us as a father. For, "We are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world." God will also deny us the joy of salvation, and the answer to our prayers, and in Heaven will withhold our reward in proportion to our backsliding. For, "Behold I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be." And how sad that the works of some Christians will have to be burned on the Judgment Day, for "Fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss; but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire." So we must take God's warning and prepare for our reward, or suffer eternal loss. (I Corinthians 11:32, Revelation 22:12, I Corinthians 3:13-15.)

For God is an eternal being of different realm than earth, not waiting helpless in Heaven for man to surrender and serve Him: but is carrying out His plans to the utmost, drawing people to Him, and holding them as He will, through spiritual influence, instruction, chastening and light: yet leaving them with the responsibility of making their own choice, with their fate resting entirely upon their own decision.

"For whom He did foreknown He also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of His son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom He did predestinate, them He also called: and whom He called, them He also justified: and whom He justified, them He also glorified." (Romans 8:29, 30.)

Here we see both salvation and eternal security shine as precious gems in the eternal plan of God. For ,"Whom He justified, them He also glorified." Those who understand this will better appreciate what it means to belong to the family of God, and can say with the Apostle: "I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him against that day." II Timothy 1:12. They will also heed His command to: "Grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption." Think of it! "Sealed unto the day of redemption." Is it any wonder that we hold out?

"Oh, what a saviour Jesus is." And, because of His shed blood, we go to Heaven on His righteousness and credit, —not on ours, for God will not accept ours.

1. **So let us rejoice in the blood and prayers of Christ,** who, "Loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood." And Who prayed: "Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am." And even now: "He ever liveth to make intercession for them." (Revelation 1:5, John 17:24, Hebrews 7:25.)

2. **Let us trust the promise and power of God.** "My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand." And, "He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ." (John 10:29, Philippians 1:6; also John 3:16.)

3. **Let us rest in the sealing of the holy Spirit.** (Ephesians 4:30.)

4. **Let us feed upon the word of God:** "Which is able to build you up and to give you an inheritance." (Acts 20:32.)

5. **Let us use our new nature and faith.** (II Corinthians 5:17, Hebrews 10:39.)

For these are the things that save and keep us forever. And, "we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord." And, "The foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are His." (II Corinthians 3:18, II Timothy 2:19.)

"But ye, beloved, building yourself up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, keep yourself in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life." "Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art called." (Jude 1:20, 21, I Tim. 6:12.)

"Now unto Him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen." (Jude 1:24, 25.)

So let us say with David: "Thou shalt guide me with thy counsel, and afterward receive me to glory." For, "He that spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things." And, "How much more shall the blood of Christ, Who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God." (Psalm 73:24, Romans 8:32, Hebrews 9:14.)

For: "It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?—Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him that loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 8:34-39.)

H. G. GIBSON.

PRAYER POWER

Prayer is the one power always within reach of human beings, the one timeless contact with the Divine One. Only God could create a universe equal to this one; only God could conceive and animate a world of living, moving, thinking creatures; and only such a Creator could crown His numberless myriads with a being able to think His thoughts after Him, to speak to Him in appeals strong enough to alter or abolish that which harms His highest creation,—MAN.

The more helpless he is, the deeper his suffering, the fewer his friends, the sadder his life, the more serious his tribulation, the greater his need,—Man in the depths of any or all of these ills of the heart, the mind or the body has One to whom he can appeal for aid. Belief in Him and faith in His power are required. But these are free gifts from the Creator,—made just as free as the air we breath, the water we drink.

God has strived from the beginning of creation to maintain these attributes to man, but the Evil One has bent his energies to break the contact, to rob us of our faith and to provide substitutes,—useless, unworthy and powerless. We have to confess that man has supported Satan, walked unhesitatingly in his paths and believed his lies more freely and easily than in all that would bring the Power of God to our help.

Man,—and woman, too,—has been quite fruitful in his invention of substitutes for belief in the Creator and in His Son,—even making use of His Holy Word and distorted teaching therefrom to teach God's creatures other "Ways of Life" and other so-called religions. And man has received them without proof or accepted the miserable evidence brought to their support.

But what of the presence of the Son of God in this world? Freely and frequently foretold by the Old Testament prophets whom they believed, quoted and boasted about. Him they crowned with thorns and tortured and then hanged on a tree, after listening to his teachings and watching His miracles!

This, too, was in keeping with the Word of God. Deeply in harmony with the purpose of the Creator, this greatest of all the Powers of God bowed to the demand of common man as instructed by the supposedly religious leaders,—and they, of course, influenced by the Evil One.

The Christian believer in God has no excuse to offer for the first appearance of sin in the Garden of Eden nor for the wicked acts and inventions of man or the depths to which he has sunk century after century. God offers a simple remedy for sin rather than using His power to prevent the appearance of evil in His most wonderful creature. The perfect freedom with which man thinks, speaks and acts was not hindered or hampered even in the choice between good and evil.

The loving Father of us all placed every normal mental and material barrier across man's road to sin. He has taught us in the pages of His Holy Word, by His prophets and preachers,—and finally by the appearance among us of Him who was chosen to die on the cross that we might live,—that "the soul that sinneth it shall die" (Eze. 18:4), but that man has only to use the one supreme faculty given him at birth,—his mind,—to escape this penalty. *Belief in Him* and *Faith in His Power* are there for man's use. "The wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."—Rom. 6:23.

This belief in Him and Faith in His Power can only end in appeals to Him according to our needs or those of our dear ones. This is Prayer. This is our greatest Power,—not our own power, but that of Him who answers Prayer.

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